

14,000 BUILDINGS ARE WRECKED

Norway War Damage Now Totals 500,000,000 Crowns

Private Property Suffers Heavily From Nazi Attack; Loss 340,000,000 Crowns

By DAVID M. NICHOL

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BERNE, Dec. 15.—Norway's war damage to private property as a result of the German campaign is now estimated to be 340,000,000 crowns, according to a Stockholm dispatch in the Neue Zürcher Zeitung (Zürich).

Today's War Moves

Continued from Page One

die chain and is but 400 miles from Port Darwin, the Australian base. It has been developed—with an eye to military value—as an air base. This development, undoubtedly will be followed if there is the threat of an Axis move into Spain. The base, a move which has long been viewed in Washington as a strong possibility, President Roosevelt already has laid down the principle that Axis occupation of the Azores and Cape Verde Islands would directly menace the safety of the United States.

Portugal's desperate desire to remain neutral therefore has not and will not have any effect on the integrity of her empire position.

It is impossible to overestimate the strategic value of the Portuguese Atlantic Islands as bases for destruction, submarines and air craft, and as a way to supply food. They also guard the exit from the Mediterranean, should the Axis take over the French fleet and capture Gibraltar.

MAY ACT SOON

There have been suggestions from Portuguese sources that if the Mediterranean is invaded, any such thing would be surrendered to the United States for safety. A growing Axis threat in the western Mediterranean, however, might find the Allies to possession even before an actual invasion.

It is to come to grips with the United States and intensify the war in the Atlantic, a move into the Iberian peninsula and West Africa would be his most logical course. How soon he might feel able to attempt it, for his own purpose and to aid his Japanese partner by diverting American naval and air strength, is highly probable.

It is, in fact, extremely doubtful that Hitler could attempt any such thing under the present circumstances. He is pressed in the east, both in Russia and in Libya. British reports indicate at least a possibility that the Axis will be driven entirely out of North Africa. If this has been unable to force reinforcements into North Africa to stop the British drive, it does not seem logical to assume that he is capable of embarking on an adventure of far greater magnitude.

The probability is that Hitler has not been able to spare enough from his Russian campaign to put the premier of France in his strategic position in coming months. He is governed by the outcome of his withdrawal in Russia. If he is able to turn the theater and the British force which he is seeking, the pressure may be eased and he may be able to replenish his strength during the months before spring.

Axis Chiefs Meet In Berlin To Map New War Strategy

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—(AP)—A Tokyo radio broadcast from San Francisco last night said representatives of Germany, Italy and Japan are meeting in Berlin. According to the Japanese statement, the meetings are to plan Axis war strategy and will continue for some time. Tokyo said the conference began Monday under the chairmanship of German Foreign Minister Von Ribbentrop.

Weather

Local Forecast
FAIR AND
CLOUDY
CHANCE
OF RAIN

Highest temperature above 42.00 p.m. Thursday 7.00 a.m. Friday 7.00 a.m. Saturday 7.00 a.m. Sunday 7.00 a.m.

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Russian Forces Crunch Down On Retreating Huns

By HENRY C. CASSIDY

WITH THE RED ARMY ON THE MOSCOW FRONT, Dec. 15.—(AP)—Crunching down on the rear of the retreating German army, the Russian steamroller has rolled forward more than 40 miles beyond the starting point on the flanks of the Moscow front, pushing the invaders back to a distance that means security for the Soviet capital.

Over icy, snow-packed battlefields, the Soviet forces have been pushing the invaders back to a distance that means security for the Soviet capital.

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IAP ATTACKS Little Damage In Raids On Manila

MANILA, Dec. 15.—(AP)—The United States Far Eastern command announced today Japanese raids on Nichols and Zablan fields caused light damage and disclosed that the entire Philippines army is being taken into the U. S. Army of the Far East for the maximum defense of the islands. The communique said there was no report on casualties.

The announcement on the Philippine army said it was being incorporated in all defense units to maximize the use of the Philippine army in the maximum cohesion and coordination.

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Timor Island Taken Over By Allied Forces

Continued from Page One

defense on the part of Allied nations at war with Japan.

A foreign office source said he understood that there was no resistance to the Allied landing.

In unofficial but informed quarters it was predicted that the Timor occupation would lead to early repatriation which might determine the final war status of Spain and Portugal, possibly even Vichy.

It was said that Britain has never relinquished hope of keeping Spain neutral despite the pro-Axis affiliations of Franco. Concerning Portugal, however, there have been repeated admissions in the British press that the traditional British-Portuguese friendship has been somewhat frayed by effective German propaganda.

Some British sources expressed the hope that affiliation of Latin America with the United States would lead to the re-encouragement of Portugal to encourage Spain and Portugal to re-encourage Britain.

Timor, lying at the eastern end of the N.E. archipelago, is a small island between the Netherlands and Portuguese sovereignty. British-American representations were made shortly before the start of the war in the Pacific that Portugal permitted the Japanese to establish a post for an airline from the island of Flores in the Japanese dutch archipelago.

Portuguese Timor now has come within the danger zone and there were reports of Japanese air and naval activity nearby.

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British Force Smashes Axis' Libyan Front

Continued from Page One

14 and 15, the communique added, 10 British airplanes were engaged in the air battle over the coast road from Derna.

The air attacks on detachments moving west from Derna does not mean that the Axis has abandoned hope of establishing a defense line south of that port, he said.

Driving toward Derna, the British forces are moving almost due north. Beyond Derna the coast curves away to the southwest.

The communique said there is nothing yet to show that advanced British columns have managed to cut beyond the main body of retreating Axis troops, and nothing definite on the fate of Axis forces in the Gassala area, which has been passed by the sweeping British advance.

However, the belief was expressed in London that British rear forces had penetrated well ahead of the east-west Mm-Makki road, which Cairo said had been reached by the main body of British infantry. A front along the road would be facing north toward Derna. Makki is 80 miles from the Egyptian border.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—(AP)—Axis forces are attempting to withdraw from Gassala, 40 miles west of Tobruk. British forces are "pressing the enemy hard and pursuing him," a military communique said today.

British mechanized columns were reported already beyond the Gassala position, making the Axis withdrawal particularly hasty.

The communique said that 8,100 Axis prisoners had arrived at Alexandria by Dec. 15 and included 27 Italian officers, 2,025 other officers, 27 Italian officers, and 4,899 other officers.

Polish and Indian troops on Dec. 16 reported taking an additional 1,000 Italian prisoners.

Vichy Charges Against Britain Are Withdrawn

LONDON, Dec. 15.—(AP)—The Admiralty announced today that Vichy authorities had taken the unusual step of withdrawing the charges they had made that a British submarine had sunk the French freighter St. Denis.

The foreign office source added that Anglo-Portuguese relations were "something that will have to be kept out of the war."

Disposals from Lisbon last night the Portuguese government announced a special cabinet meeting.

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Churchill May Be Attending Allied Parley

Continued from Page One

The Allied conference was launched by Edgar Louis Graville, Liberal, who asked whether in "view of the progress of the war" the British Empire in operations on a world-wide scale, the Prime Minister will now consider the formation of an Empire war cabinet for the purpose of obtaining closer cooperation between the British Commonwealth of Nations on peace, production and strategy.

Atter replied that the government is constantly considering the desirability of achieving such cooperation.

Graville asked then whether the "measurable march of events" may be awaited before the full resources of the British Empire, including India, are mobilized.

Mr. Durrant stated that this sub-committee has for several years been settling many real estate

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Super-Confidence At Tokyo

The communiques issued at Tokyo supply evidence of how nicely the propaganda department there fits into the Axis scheme of things. Gobbleduism rather than the facts, which the Japanese capital is sweeping the Pacific clear of enemy warships, reducing strongholds and taking possession of the United States bases, are the only real factors. If wars were won in broadcasting stations and cable offices, Yamamoto could get ready to leave for Washington to dictate the terms of peace.

Ahead of some of these communiques are the important because of the attitude of mind they disclose. Tokyo is as confident that it will win the war in the Pacific as it was a few months ago that it would sweep the Russian armies out of existence in a matter of weeks—and a few months before that Britain would be asked to submit. The official announcements are anticipatory, not factual, and they show that the war-makers think they are about to accomplish. It will take hard fighting, and plenty of it, to knock that confidence out of them.

Fishing Expeditions

The Japanese naval chiefs would have much like to know what the United States fleet is keeping itself, and what moves are in the making to counter their sporadic raids on the dozen far-remote islands off the coast. They would also very much like to know what the United States warships are doing in the waters between Hawaii and the Philippines. This explains why a few Japanese small craft appeared the other day off the Hawaiian islands and shelled two of them. The force was too small to attempt a landing, or even make a sustained attack. It was only a "nuisance" raid, in other words, and the Japanese were trying to find out what the United States force at Honolulu had been doing in the surprise attack a week ago Sunday. Washington, it would respond with a statement from which useful inferences could be drawn. But Tokyo was not successful in the raiders who shelled Johnston island and Maui island. Tokyo is still left to the use of its unfettered imagination as to the size and nature of the retaliatory blows it must expect.

Silence is still the better part of strategy.

Stripping For Action

Last week motorboats were told they cannot buy new automobile tires. Now comes notice that the manufacture of toys and non-essential civilian conveniences is to be reduced to a minimum. It is so far as these industries require the use of iron, tin, copper and other metals needed in the making of munitions.

It is thus being brought home to Canadians by progressive restrictions on the days of their leisure that national buying are gone for a time. We must now be content with what we can get at the stores, and with so much of these as can be paid for after taxes and war loans have been met.

It is altogether to the credit of the public that there has been no protest against any curtailment thus far imposed. There have been objections to methods, but none to the official shortening of leisure. Further restrictions are necessary will, it is to be supposed, be accepted in the same spirit. The only question is whether we must get along without to help in the winning; for this the public are undoubtedly prepared. Not only prepared, but rather glad to accept restraints than the authorities are to impose them.

Compared to the rationing to which the Axis people have been subjected for years—running back long before the war began, Canadians are still enjoying a high standard of living. We can easily put up with fewer luxuries and get along without many things we have thought almost necessary, and the plain fact is that we will have to.

Hong Kong And Singapore

Hong Kong may have to be evacuated. Singapore may have to be given up. These are the surprising and disconcerting possibilities of which the people of Britain have been made aware, by commentators who seemed to be preparing them for the bad news one or other stronghold is being abandoned.

Almost anything may happen in war, but it has never been hinted that loss of either these islands was thinkable. On the contrary, there were assurances from the highest authorities that whatever Japan might

do in the Pacific it could not, without prolonged and most desperate fighting, hope to capture Hong Kong or Singapore.

If either has to be given up, the reason is fairly well known. There is a Chinese population of 1,500,000 on the island of Hong Kong, and to feed this multitude through a long siege is impossible. The sinking of the Prince of Wales and the Repulse left Singapore without naval defence. The Japanese defence plans had been based. But for these circumstances, the fortresses would rank with Gibraltar.

But the loss of either would be a disaster. There is no use blinking at the fact. It had better be faced squarely, its magnitude measured, the results assessed, and steps taken to neutralize the advantage gained by the enemy. To suggest, as one London paper does, that "Hong Kong is of no strategic value" and may as well be given up, is just nonsense and a clumsy attempt at self-deception.

Hong Kong is of great strategic value. Elsewhere in the Pacific and other troops rushed there to strengthen the garrison on the eve of war. It is supposed that the Japanese to stage another Dunkirk? Singapore is of equally great strategic value, perhaps even greater. The loss of it would leave the Allies without the two strongest bases they have in the Pacific; and the enemy in position to dominate the southern Pacific. It has never can while those bases are held against them.

During the first ten months of this year Canada imported from the Netherlands Indies, the Straits Settlements, Burma, Java, Hong Kong and China goods to the value of \$61,000,000. Considerably more than half the total is it supposed that the Japanese have been cut off absolutely. That explains why new time are off the market in Canada.

The Japanese are not being embarrassed by flattery from the partners of their junker leaders. "Herr Hitler monkeys," Now Mussolini's expounder of ethnology catalogues them as "inferior yellow races." Why term a cultured Japanese would consider more insulting it would be interesting to know.

So far as Edmonton is concerned the salvage campaign announced at Ottawa may have been really getting under way, and it quickly became apparent that to achieve results the first step must have been to salvage the campaign itself. Steps are being taken to translate the excellent information into organized effort. If that is done there need be no shortage of response. To get rid of household waste and have this turned into war materials would be popular for two reasons.

Looking Backward

From The Bulletin Files

1891—30 Years Ago

A motion committing the Northwest Assembly to pass a license act was passed Tuesday, over the amendment which called for a plebiscite.

In a message to the Northwest Assembly, the Lieutenant-Governor commends the point of naming a responsible executive.

A petition for the incorporation of Edmonton as a town was presented at Regina.

A petition was introduced at Regina against the sale of game.

Moose Jaw had a disastrous fire on December 18. The lives were lost and 20 buildings burned.

1901—40 Years Ago

Laombe is taking steps to apply for incorporation as a town.

"Ponika" is the maharajah town on the coast in the Malay Peninsula, the trading centre, developed within 18 months of the founding of a district well adapted to mixed farming.

The Old Times' dinner in the Jasper House on Friday evening was attended by 700 persons, the proportion of tenderfoot was larger than usual.

A light fall of snow Friday night and another on Saturday has provided sleighing for the first time this season.

1911—50 Years Ago

Shanghai: Peace in China became more probable with the announcement that Britain, the United States, Germany, Japan, Russia and France will offer their assistance in arranging a settlement between the revolutionaries and the government.

The plan of the Edmonton Iron Works will be removed to a site in Riverview.

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1921—60 Years Ago

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1931—70 Years Ago

Paris: Canada is terminating the trade treaty made with France in 1922.

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Necessity Seen For Consolidation Of Forces In Pacific

Either Philippines Or Singapore May Be Abandoned

In View

By HAROLD L. WEIR

There is serious indication in Australia over the suddenly revised weak position of Singapore. Australian papers have come out full blast in condemnation of "Colonel Blimpie" who at back command, they charge, has allowed the necessity of a hitherto capable effort.

There is a parallel wave of protest over what is considered to be the unnecessary retention of the Prince of Wales and the Repulse.

It must be admitted that there are good reasons for the substantial grounds for inaction. The Japanese are stupid to direct this acrimonious criticism against the wrong persons.

Certainly the admirals who joined battle with the Japanese in the Prince of Wales and the Repulse were guilty of improper judgment. He was a very gallant officer but, apparently, a very poor one.

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The high commands of both countries will undoubtedly be confronted with this difficult decision before the war is many weeks older.

As a matter of fact, there is reason to believe that the Japanese is already under discussion.

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As a matter of fact, Japan appears to have had fuller knowledge of these defensive weaknesses than either London or Washington.

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Canadian Farmers Are

Canadian Farmers Are Meeting Demands For Increased Production

Canada is concerned with increasing production of livestock because Britain has made a special appeal for meat, mainly bacon and ham, and cheese from this country, and Canadian farmers have met the calls for greater production commendably, it was stated Wednesday afternoon by Hon. J. G. Gardiner, federal minister of agriculture.

The minister addressed a joint meeting of the northern Alberta livestock breeders' associations in the Masonic Temple. On completion of his address Mr. Gardiner answered questions put to him from the members for more than two hours. The meeting was quiet and orderly and Mr. Gardiner gave full answers and ex-

Edmonton's stores will remain open on Saturday evening, Dec. 26, next and on Tuesday evening of next week until 10:30 o'clock as a convenience to Christmas shoppers.

At the last meeting of the

at the Edmonton Exhibition. Auctioneer, Hon. Dr. Bruce MacMillan, Alberta member of agriculture. J. H. MacMillan, president of the Alberta Cattle Breeders' Association, N. S. Simpson, president of the Northern Alberta Sheep Breeders' Association, and J. H. MacMillan, president of the Northern Alberta Saddle Breeders' Association, and J. H. MacMillan, president of the Northern Alberta Horse Breeders' Association.

The chief demand from Canada was for loans and arms, on White Paper No. 13, 1940.

Johnstone Walker Limited
Store Hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Phone 23161—Ask for Dept.
Lovely Rayon Satin
and Crepe Silks

and Crepe Slips
— Ideal Gifts

An everyday requirement as why
boast over such a practical
gift?

Some in the popular bias folded
... others bias straight folded
and styles with delicate touches
of embroidery. Choose from
have laces, lace trim,
Tulle or white, Sizes
22 to 24. Folded

1.59

Watson Undies
Vests and Panties

1.00 and 1.25

Watson's

Splendid winter weight Undies of fine wool or silk and wool.

- Vests have strap or wide shirring.
- Pajamas knitted band at waist and

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Cosy Quilted Satin Bed Jackets

Thoughtful Gifts

If it is a gift to mother you are in search of, these decorative nightgown sets of linen are just what you need. They look like this.

They come in pleasing floral designs in pink or blue. **1.98**

Other styles and qualities at 1.59 to 3.95.

Women's Flannelette

Nightgowns
Practical Gifts

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Women's High-Grade Fur-Trimmed

Moccasin Slippers
With Gift Appeal!
A very superior quality Moccasin Slipper
that will appeal to those who have S. S.

Made from finest grade elk
with smooth gold finish
trimmed with real fur. Shown
in black, brown, blue, white,
green, natural
and white.

Fleece lined.
Sizes 4 to 9.
Priced,
Other qualities. Priced at

2.25



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Johnstone Walker
Limited 1880

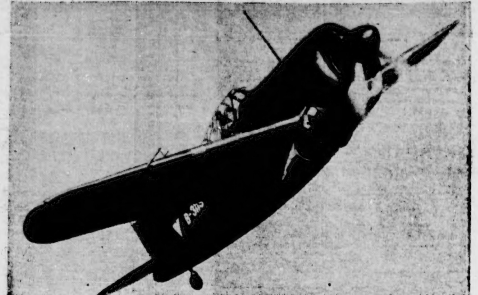
Battles Rage In And Over Malayan Jungles As British Clash With Invading Japanese Forces



Cecil Brown, Singapore correspondent of the Columbia Broadcasting Co., was rescued after the sinking of the British battle cruiser Repulse and the battleship Prince of Wales in a sea-air battle off Malaya. He gave a graphic description of the last moments of the great ship going down into a sea aflame with blazing oil.

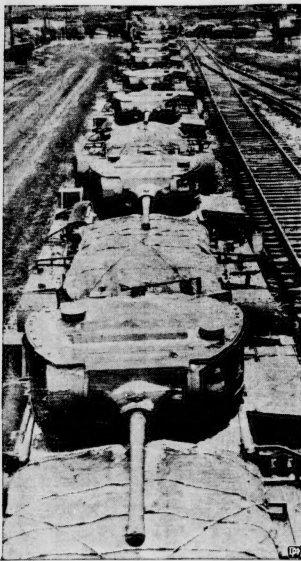


In and over the thick jungles of British Malaya battles are raging as invading Japanese forces coming down from Thailand and landed on the peninsula's coast drive at outer defences of the British colony and attempt to move toward Singapore. At left, a battalion of Indian troops which make up part of the Imperial army, are pictured crossing an island-strewn lake in rubber boats, carrying their war equipment with them. At right, fighter planes of the R.A.F. sweep over the Malayan jungle. Today aircraft and soldiers alike are fighting the Japs in bitter battles.



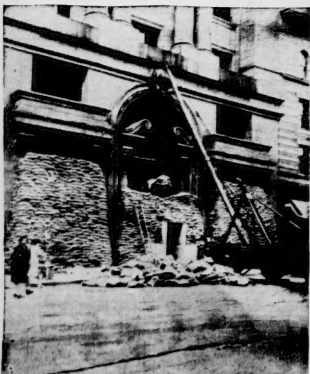
One of a large fleet of Brewster Buffalo fighters being used by the air force of the Netherlands East Indies for the defence of Java. It is powered with a 1,200-horsepower Wright Cyclone engine. The Buffalo has a top speed of 350 miles per hour, and a range of 2,500 miles. Its armament consists of four .50-calibre machine-guns.

Canadian Tanks For Russia



A long line of Canadian-built infantry tanks loaded aboard flat cars leaves the Angus shops in Montreal on the first lap of the long journey to the Russian front where they will help push back the waves of frost-bitten Nazis on the Moscow and Southern sectors. One hundred of these infantry tanks will be sent to Russia from Canada. Each weighs 20 tons and has a top speed of twenty miles per hour. More than 3,500 men keep the plant going night and day, six days a week to keep these steel monsters flowing from the assembly line on a mass production basis.

'Frisco Ready For Bombers



Sand bags are piled 20-feet high around the San Francisco telephone exchange building to protect that vital nerve centre against damage should the Japanese bomb the west coast city.

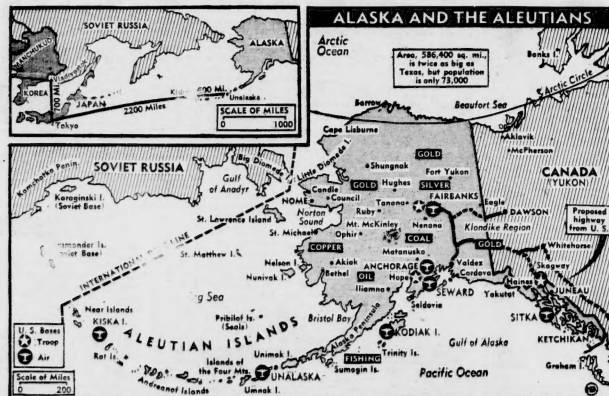
Axis Prisoners Captured In Libya



These Italian and German prisoners are marching to a concentration point, somewhere in Libya, after their capture in the new Imperial offensive against the Axis forces in North Africa, which relieved the siege of Tobruk.

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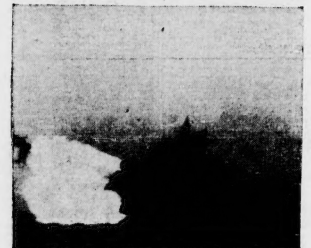
War may go north in the Americas this winter, for Alaska and the Aleutian Islands are closest points on this continent to Japan and the Pacific war theatre. Long range U.S. bombers based here could raid Tokyo if allowed to refuel at Vladivostok, while Japan, in turn, might attempt Alaskan invasion.

Young New Yorkers Flock To Enlist



Plenty of squawking was heard as young America underwent the draft, but now that trouble is at hand, the same young America is flooding recruiting offices throughout the nation. Here's scene in New York.

Death To Axis Tanks



New type mines are in use by British forces on the Libyan desert as they engage Nazi armored forces. Explosion phases are shown on picture strip.

